GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1039
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
POPULATION LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government has identified districts with more than 50% of the population living below poverty line;

(b)if so, the details thereof; and

(c)if not, the stand of the Government in this regard and the efforts being made in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V.RAJASEKHARAN)

(a)&(b): The Planning Commission estimates the population living below poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest such survey was conducted in 1999-2000 (NSS 55th Round). As such, separate poverty estimates at district level are not available. However, the number and proportion of population living below the poverty line in the rural and urban areas, state- wise, estimated from the latest round of NSSO on household consumer expenditure survey for the year 1999-2000 is attached.

(c): Government has been implementing number of poverty alleviation programmes throughout the country for the people living below poverty line. Besides this, the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY), aims at focused development programmes for backward areas, primarily to fill critical gaps, which would help reduce imbalances, speed up development and help these areas to reduce poverty during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Note:

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh,Meghalaya, Mizoram,Manipur,Nagaland and Tripura.

2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.

3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.

4.Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.

6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.

8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

9. Urban Poverty Ratio of Rajasthan may be treated as tentative.